

## Message Text

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2028

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 5323

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

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S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 3 USNATO 2941

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DPC

SUBJ: DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING MAY 23, 1975: AGENDA ITEM V,  
MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE

REF: DPC/D(75)4(POUCHED NOTAL)

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BEGIN SUMMARY: DURING MAY 23 MEETING, DEFENSE MINISTERS ENDOR-  
SED BOTH 1975 MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT (DPC/D(75)4) AND UN-  
CLASSIFIED VERSION FOR PUBLIC RELEASE AS ANNEX TO COMMUNIQUE  
(SEPTEL). SECRETARY SCHLESINGER ACCEPTED INTERNATIONAL STAFF (IS)  
ALTERNATIVE PARAGRAPHS ON WARNING OF WAR, BUT REQUESTED THAT  
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DECISION SHEET SHOW US POSITION ON WARNING TIME. MINISTER  
RICHARDSON (CANADA) WITHDREW CANADIAN-PROPOSED RESOURCE PARAS  
38 AND 38(BIS); MINISTER VREDELING (NETHERLANDS) REQUESTED  
THAT DUTCH-PROPOSED ADDITIONAL SENTENCE ON RATIONALIZATION/

SPECIALIZATION BE CARRIED AS FOOTNOTE TO PARA 40 IF DPC PERM REPS ARE UNABLE TO REACH AGREEMENT ON ITS INCLUSION IN GUIDANCE PROPER. VIRTUALLY ALL MINISTERS JUDGED 1975 GUIDANCE DOCUMENT SUPERIOR TO PREVIOUS VERSIONS, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE IT INCLUDED A LONG-RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT; THEY PROMISED TO PROMOTE IMPLEMENTATION IN THEIR NATIONAL CAPITALS. END SUMMARY.

1. IN INTRODUCING MAY 23 DPC DISCUSSION OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, SYG LUNS DESCRIBED GUIDANCE DOCUMENT (DPC/D(75)4) AS THE MAJOR ITEM ON MINISTERS' AGENDA SINCE IT PROVIDES "LAUNCHING PLATFORM" FOR NATO FORCE PLANNING CYCLE. HE SAID GUIDANCE DOCUMENT: A) WAS "PRECISE, SPECIFIC AND INCAPABLE OF MISINTERPRETATION," B) HAD BROUGHT TO LIGHT SOME CONFLICTING NATIONAL POSITIONS WHICH WERE IN BRACKETS, AND C) INCLUDED A LONG RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT (LRDC) AS RECOMMENDED BY SECRETARY SCHLESINGER DURING THE PREVIOUS MINISTERIAL MEETING. SYG LUNS EXPRESSED HOPE THAT MINISTERS WOULD BOTH PROVIDE CLEAR DIRECTIONS TO ASSIST DPC PERM REPS IN REDRAFTING BRACKETED PORTIONS OF EXISTING DOCUMENT AND GIVE THEIR ATTENTION TO THOSE MAJOR PORTIONS OF THE DOCUMENT WHICH CONTAINED "AGREED" LANGUAGE.

2. FOSTERVOLL (NORWAY), DESCRIBING GUIDANCE DOCUMENT AS "WELL-SUITED" FOR BOTH NATO AND MEMBER NATION DEFENSE PLANNING, ACCEPTED DOCUMENT AS PROPOSED AND PROMISED TO "DO MY PART" TO APPLY IT IN BOTH NORWEGIAN MILITARY AND CIVIL EMERGENCY PLANNING. HE SAID HE WAS HAPPY TO SEE INCLUSION OF THE LONG RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT EXPANDED, COMPREHENSIVE FRAMEWORK OF THE 1975 GUIDANCE DOCUMENT WILL HELP INCREASE NATO-WIDE STANDARDIZATION. REGARDING ALTERNATIVE PARAGRAPHS ON WARNING OF WAR, FOSTERVOLL STATED NORWAY'S "DEFINITE PREFERENCE" FOR THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF VERSIONS. HE SAID EVERYONE AGREES THAT WARSAW PACT WARLIKE PREPARATIONS WILL PROBABLY FOLLOW A PERIOD OF POLITICAL TENSION, BUT THAT NO ONE CAN FORESEE, WITH ANY DEGREE OF PRECISION, THE LENGTH OF SUCH A PERIOD. HE SAID NORWAY'S "EXPOSED" SITUATION REQUIRES PREPARATION FOR "WORST-CASE" IN WHICH WARSAW PACT ATTACKS, PERHAPS UNDER COVER OF A MILITARY EXERCISE, WITH LITTLE OR NO WARNING. FOSTERVOLL EXPRESSED  
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ADMIRATION FOR NATO'S QUICK ACTION IN USING STANAVFORLANT FOR "FLAG SHOWING" AND SURVEILLANCE PURPOSES DURING RECENT SOVIET MARITIME EXERCISE AND CITED SEVERAL RELATED NORWEGIAN ACTIONS SUCH AS FORWARD DEPLOYMENT OF TACTICAL AIRCRAFT TO BANAK AND OTHER NORTHERN AIRFIELDS, INCREASE IN READINESS STATUS OF THE NAVAL UNITS, ETC. IN CONCLUSION, HE APPLAUDED GUIDANCE STRESS BOTH ON READINESS OF FORCES IN FORWARD LOCATIONS AND ON RESERVES AND REINFORCEMENTS WHICH CAN BE DEPLOYED QUICKLY.

3. MELEN (TURKEY) STATED THAT INCLUSION OF LONG-RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT AND ADDITION OF SUBJECTS DEALING WITH SUPPORT, ALLIED COOPERATION AND MUTUAL AID LEND IMPORTANCE TO THE DOCUMENT. HE AGREED WITH EMPHASIS GUIDANCE PLACES ON UPGRADING AND

MAINTAINING CONVENTIONAL FORCES TO MAKE STRATEGY OF FLEXIBLE RESPONSE WORK. HE POINTED TO IMPORTANCE OF STANDARDIZATION, RATIONALIZATION, COOPERATION IN PROCUREMENT AND MUTUAL AID AS ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS IN ACHIEVING SUCCESS IN UPGRADING CONVENTIONAL FORCE CAPABILITIES. NOTING HIS PREDECESSOR'S INTERVENTION AT DECEMBER, 1974 MINISTERIAL MEETING ON WARNING TIME AND DURATION OF HOSTILITIES, HE SAID THAT IT WAS "QUITE POSSIBLE" THAT WP, TAKING ACCOUNT OF NATO WEAKNESSES IN SOUTHERN SECTOR AND TIME REQUIRED TO REINFORCE THAT REGION, MIGHT PRESENT ALLIANCE WITH A FAIT ACCOMPLI. HE STATED THAT WP CAPABILITIES WOULD GIVE THEM OPPORTUNITY TO ATTACK WITH LITTLE OR NO WARNING, AND BALANCE OF FORCES WOULD DICTATE VERY QUICK ESCALATION "TOWARD NUCLEAR WEAPONS." HE CALLED FOR REMEDYING WEAKNESSES ON SOUTHERN FLANK AS A MATTER OF PRIORITY, PARTICULARLY THROUGH PREPARATION OF PLANS DURING DEFENSE REVIEW PROCESS FOR EARLY REINFORCEMENT. REFERRING TO REPORT ON STRATEGIC SITUATION IN MEDITERRANEAN, HE RECALLED COMMENTS HE HAD MADE IN RESTRICTED SESSION ON ESSENTIALITY OF ALLIANCE REVITALIZING ITS SPIRIT OF SOLIDARITY AND MUTUAL AID THERE. HE NOTED EXISTENCE OF AD HOC GROUP ON TURKISH MILITARY AID, EXPRESSING HOPE THAT ALLIANCE MACHINERY COULD WORK TOWARD RECTIFYING URGENT TURKISH MILITARY REQUIREMENTS SOON.

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4. MOLLER (DENMARK) EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR "SUCCESSFUL" GUIDANCE DOCUMENT WHICH IS MORE REALISTIC AND FAR-SIGHTED THAN PREVIOUS VERSIONS, DUE IN PART TO ITS INCLUSION OF THE LONG RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT. HE SAID SECTION ON RESOURCES WAS MOST "CRUCIAL" PART OF GUIDANCE BECAUSE, AS STATED IN PARA 37, NATIONAL DEFENSE BUDGETS HAVE NOT KEPT PACE WITH INCREASES IN DEFENSE OPERATING AND PROCUREMENT COSTS. MOLLER PREFERRED THE CANADIAN PROPOSED PARAGRAPHS 38 AND 38(BIS) AS THEY GAVE MORE EMPHASIS TO RATIONALIZATION THEN THE IS VERSION. HOWEVER, HE EMPHASIZED THAT CURRENT DANISH DEFENSE ACT, WHICH THE FOUR MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES SUPPORT, WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE A "STABLE AND INCREASING" FINANCIAL BASIS FOR DEFENSE THROUGH 1977. HE CITED HIGH PROPORTION OF DANISH DEFENSE BUDGET ALLOCATED TO INVESTMENT AND SAID HE EXPECTED THIS TREND WOULD CONTINUE

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BECAUSE OF ANTICIPATED EXPENDITURES ON LEOPARD TANKS, HEAVY ARMoured VEHICLES, ANTI-ARMOUR EQUIPMENT, ETC. FOR THESE REASONS, MOLLER SAID DENMRK COULD ALSO ACCEPT THE IS VERSION OF PARA 38 IF DPC MAJORITY SO DECIDED. HE PREFERRED TO DELETE BRACKETED SENTENCE WHICH STATES THAT SMALL COUNTRIES COULD NOT MAINTAIN FORCES WITHOUT RATIONALIZATION WHICH NETHERLANDS PROPOSED FOR PARA 40.

5. RICHARDSON (CANADA) ENDORSED "GENERAL POLICY THRUST" OF GUIDANCE DOCUMENT. HE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH DEFENSE MINISTERS CANNOT ALONE COMMIT THEIR GOVERNMENTS AND LEGISLATURES, HE WOULD WORK WITHIN HIS GOVERNMENT TO CARRY OUT THE GUIDANCE. HE SAID CANADA WOULD "AT THE VERY LEAST," MAINTAIN ITS COMMITMENT TO NATO AT THE PRESENT LEVEL AND THAT THE ONGOING CANADIAN DEFENSE REVIEW WAS SEEKING THE BEST WAY TO DO THIS. REFERRING TO MONETARY INCREASES IN CANADIAN DEFENSE BUDGETS OF 12.5 PERCENT FOR 1974-75 AND 11.5 PERCENT FOR 1975-76, HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT CANADA WOULD CONTINUE THESE INCREASES AND CONTROL INFLATION SUFFICIENTLY TO ALLOW REAL INCREASES IN FUTURE DEFENSE BUDGETS. RICHARDSON SAID CANADA COULD THEREFORE ACCEPT EITHER THE IS-PROPOSED PARA 38 OR THE CANADIAN PROPOSAL. HE CONCLUDED BY REAFFIRMING THAT CANADA WOULD CONTINUE THE PRESENT LEVEL OF ITS MILITARY COMMITMENT TO NATO AND SEARCH FOR THE MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS TO DO SO.

6. ADMIRAL PINHEIRO DE AZEVEDO (PORTUGAL) STATED HE AGREED WITH AND ACCEPTED GENERAL CHARACTER OF STRATEGIC AND OTHER PRINCIPLES CONTAINED IN MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, AND EXPRESSED NEED TO TRANSLATE DOCUMENT INTO ACTION TAKING ACCOUNT OF SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES OF MEMBER COUNTRIES. NOTING THAT PORTUGAL WAS ATTEMPTING TO ATTAIN "DEMOCRATIC FREEDOM AND SOCIAL JUSTICE," HE STATED THAT THERE WAS "A LONG WAY TO GO" BEFORE IT COULD MAKE AN EFFECTIVE CONTRIBUTION TO NATO DEFENSE IN OTHER THAN A SELF-DEFENSE ROLE. RAISING HIS VOICE MARKEDLY, PINHEIRO DECLARED HIS DESIRE TO "STRESS HERE THAT OUR LOYALTY TO THE ALLIANCE REMAINS UNCHANGED." HE CALLED FOR

CONCRETE MEASURES OF ALLIED ASSISTANCE, NOTING THAT PARA 39 STATED NEED OF COUNTRIES FOR EXTERNAL AID.

7. LEBER (FRG) SAID DEVELOPMENT OF 1975 MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE HAD ENCOUNTERED "MORE DIFFICULTIES" THAN EARLIER VERSIONS, BUT FINAL PRODUCT MADE EFFORTS "WORTHWHILE." HE RECOMMENDED THAT  
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NATO RELEASE ITS CONTENTS, AS APPROPRIATE, TO THE PUBLIC. REGARDING SECTION ON WARNING OF WAR, LEBER SAID MILITARY AUTHORITIES AND NATIONS NEED A GENERAL STATEMENT ON WARNING TIME FOR PLANNING PURPOSES. THIS SHOULD SQUARE WITH MC-161. CITING THE "CLOSE RELATIONSHIP" BETWEEN WARSAW PACT CAPABILITIES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR READINESS IN NATO FORCES, HE SAID GUIDANCE DOCUMENT SHOULD INCLUDE POSSIBILITY FOR A SHORT PERIOD OF WARNING TO JUSTIFY MAINTENANCE OF STANDING, READY NATIONAL FORCES. HE EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT EITHER US-PROPOSED PARAS 22 AND 23 IF THEY WERE REVISED TO COVER SHORT WARNING OR IS PROPOSALS WITHOUT CHANGE. LEBER SAID HE DID NOT OPPOSE PRINCIPLE BEHIND NETHERLANDS-PROPOSED SENTENCE IN PARA 40, BUT HE CAUTIONED AGAINST ESTABLISHING A TIE BETWEEN FUTURE LEVELS OF NATIONAL DEFENSE BUDGETS AND "RELATIVELY SLOW" PROGRESS IN RATIONALIZATION, SPECIALIZATION, ETC.

8. VREDELING (NETHERLANDS) SAID 1975 MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE WAS A "GOOD DOCUMENT" AND SATISFACTORY, "ON THE WHOLE," TO THE HAGUE, HE CITED ONGING FORCE MODERNIZATION PROGRAMS WHICH HAVE RESULTED FROM NETHERLANDS DEFENSE REVIEW AND SAID DUTCH CABINET WOULD SOON DECIDE, "HOPEFULLY TODAY OR TOMORROW MORNING," ON REPLACEMENT FOR F-104G. REFERRING TO APPARENT "DOUBTS" AMONG ALLIES ABOUT NETHERLANDS' POSITION ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS, HE SAID THE HAGUE CONSIDERS IT "HIGHLY IMPORTANT" THAT NATO DECREASE, IN A "RESPONSIVE WAY," DEPENDENCE ON TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS. HE SAID MBFR NEGOTIATIONS PROVIDE THE BEST APPROACH TO SUCH A DECREASE AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT EAST-WEST AGREEMENT ON EQUAL LEVELS OF GROUND FORCES WOULD RAISE THE NUCLEAR THRESHHOLD AND ALLOW FOR FOLLOW-ON MUTUAL REDUCTIONS OF TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS. REGARDING RESOURCES, VREDELING SAID IT WAS "ILLUSORY" TO EXPECT SUBSTANTIAL REAL INCREASES IN FUTURE DEFENSE BUDGETS UNLESS EAST-WEST RELATIONSHIPS WORSEN CONSIDERABLY. THE HAGUE THEREFORE BELIEVED RATIONALIZATION, INCLUDING SPECIALIZATION, WA URGENTLY REQUIRED AND SUPPORTED ADDITIONAL BRACKETED SENTENCE TO THAT EFFECT IN PARA 40. HE SAID THAT HAGUE ALSO SUPPORTED STANDARDIZATION IN THE WIDEST SENSE, INCLUDING COOPERATIION IN RESEARCH ANDDEVELOPMENT, AND THAT SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S COMMENTS ON THIS SUBJECT DURING THE LAST MINISTERIAL MEETING AND DURING RESTRICTED SESSION OF CURRENT MEETING WERE ENCOURAGING. REGARDING SECTION ON WARNING OF WAR, VREDELING SUPPORTED US-PROPOSED PARAGRAPHS 22 AND 23 AS MORE ACCURATE REPRESENTATIONS OF MC-161/75. HE SAID COVER NOTE  
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TO GUIDANCE DOCUMENT SHOULD ENCOURAGE INCREASED ROLE FOR DPC  
PERM REPS IN NATO FORCE PLANNING PROCESS AND ASKED THAT PARA 2(B)  
BE REVISED TO READ. "INSTRUCT THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE  
IN PERMANENT SESSION TO MONITOR PROGRESS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION  
OF THIS DIRECTIVE, TO REPORT TO THEM AT REGULAR INTERVALS AND  
TO INITIATE ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO ENSURE PROGRESS ON MATTERS  
WHERE SUCH ACTION IS REQUIRED, WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON  
RATIONALISATION AND STANDARDISATION." DPC ACCEPTED THIS REVISION.

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9. IN BRIEF INTERVENTION, VANDEN BOEYNANTS (BELGIUM) ACCEPTED  
GUIDANCE DOCUMENT; EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR IS VERSIONS OF  
PARAS 22, 23 AND 38; AND OBJECTED TO NETHERLANDS-PROPOSED  
SENTENCE IN PARA 40. HE SAID BELGIUM SUPPORTED RATIONALIZATION,  
BUT DID NOT UNDERSTAND MEANING OF SPECIALIZATION. VANDEN  
BOEYNANTS CONCLUDED WITH REMARK THAT IF SPECIALIZATION MEANT  
SOME COUNTRIES WOULD RIDE AND OTHERS WOULD BECOME EXPERTS AT  
CLEANING UP AFTER THE HORSES, BELGIUM WANTED NO PART OF IT.

10. MASON (UK) SAID 1975 MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT, WHICH  
WOULD PLAY A "CENTRAL PART" IN NATO FORCE PLANNING, WAS A  
"DISTINCT IMPROVEMENT" OVER PREVIOUS VERSIONS. HE SAID ALLIES

SHOULD "RESOLUTELY PURSUE" INCREASED COOPERATION WITH "ACTIONS  
RATHER THAN WORDS" AND COMPLIMENTED THE GUIDANCE DOCUMENT FOR  
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SPECIFYING CLEAR PRIORITIES IN FORCE IMPROVEMENTS. REGARDING  
SECTION ON WARNING OF WAR, HE SAID UK PREFERRED IS-PROPOSED  
PARAS 22 AND 23, BUT COULD ALSO ACCEPT US PROPOSAL.

11. FORLANI (ITALY) SAID GUIDANCE DOCUMENT GENERALLY REFLECTED  
INSTRUCTIONS WHICH MINISTERS GAVE DURING LAST MINISTERIAL  
MEETING. HE SAID SOLUTIONS TO "CONCRETE PROBLEMS" WITHIN  
ALLIANCE WOULD DEPEND ON "ECONOMIC REALITIES" IN FUTURE, AND  
THAT ALTHOUGH ECONOMIC CONDITIONS WERE IMPROVING IN ITALY,  
IT WAS STILL TOO EARLY FOR OPTIMISM. ITALY WOULD, HOWEVER MAKE  
"EVERY EFFORT" TO COMPLY WITH THE GUIDANCE. REGARDING WARNING  
OF WAR, FORLANI PREFERRED TO US-PROPOSED PARAS 22 AND 23 AS MORE  
BALANCED PRESENTATION OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INTENSITY OF  
CONFLICT AND LENGTH OF PREPARATION TIME. HE SUPPORTED  
CANADIAN-PROPOSED SENTENCE IN PARA 40.

12. SECRETARY SCHLESINGER JOINED HIS COLLEAGUES IN COMMENDING  
IS FOR EXCELLENT WORK, AND NOTED THAT DOCUMENT PROVIDED "A  
FIRM BUT NOT UNCHANGING GUIDE TO THE FUTURE." CITING IS AND  
US ALTERNATIVES ON WARNING OF WAR, HE STATED THAT US COULD  
LIVE WITH EITHER, BUT PREFERRED SECOND (US) VERSION. HE NOTED  
THAT DISCUSSION OF WARNING OF WAR DURING MAY 22 INTELLIGENCE  
BRIEFING HAD SHOWN "INHERENT FLEXIBILITY THAT CAN BE EXPLOITED  
BY THE ALLIANCE", AND THAT THIS FLEXIBILITY HAD BEEN REFLECTED  
IN MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE WARNING TIME DISCUSSION THUS FAR. HE  
SAID FIRST (IS) ALTERNATIVE PARAPHRASED SECTIONS OF MC-161 WHICH  
DID NOT DEAL WITH WARNING OF WAR, WHEREAS MC-161 WARNING OF WAR  
SECTION RECOGNIZED CONCRETE ADVANTAGE TO BE GAINED BY NOT STATING  
SPECIFIC WARNING TIMES. HE FURTHER DESCRIBED IS TEXT AS  
ESTABLISHING A BASE CASE OF 10 DAYS PLUS 72 HOURS, WHEREAS THE  
ALLIANCE MUST BE PREPARED FOR A WIDE RANGE OF DEVELOPMENTS. HE  
STATED THAT "WE ARE PREPARED TO RECEDE BECAUSE OF THE SPIRIT OF  
HARMONY THAT INEVITABLY PREVAILS IN OUR DISCUSSIONS," BUT ASKED  
THAT US JUDGMENTS BE MADE A FORMAL PART OF MEETING RECORD. HE  
NOTED THAT MC-161/75(DRAFT) WAS AN IMPROVEMENT OVER PREVIOUS  
VERSIONS SINCE IT IMPLIED NEED FOR NATO TO BE PREPARED TO DEAL  
WITH A "WHOLE RANGE" OF WARNING TIMES. RECOGNIZING THAT FRG,  
TURKEY AND NORWAY MOD'S HAD SPOKEN IN FAVOR OF FIRST VERSION AS  
MORE APPROPRIATE TO NATIONS THAT ARE "FORWARDLY STATIONED", HE  
ACCEPTED EITHER VERSION, AS LONG AS DIFFERENCES WERE CLEARLY  
UNDERSTOOD. HE THOUGH US VERSION BETTER FOR CENTER REGION  
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AND SOMEHAT LESS SUITABLE FOR NORTHERN FLANK OR TURKEY.  
REGARDING PARA 38, SECRETARY SCHLESINGER EXPRESSED  
PREFERENCE FOR IS FORMULATION.

13. ADMIRAL SIR PETER HILL-NORTON (CHAIRMAN, MILITARY COMMITTEE) STATED THAT NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES WELCOMED MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT, AND THAT IT PROVIDED ESSENTIAL INGREDIENTS ON WHICH TO BASE FORCE PROPOSALS. REGARDING VREDELING COMMENTS ON MBFR NUCLEAR OPTIONS, HILL-NORTON STATED THAT DPC PEREMREPS HAD GIVEN HIM A CHARGE TO WORK ON IT AND THAT HE WAS DOING SO. REGARDING PARA 38 (RESOURCES), HE NOTED LARGE VARIATION POSSIBLE UNDER "UP TO 5 PERCENT" FORMULA AND ASKED MOD'S TO BE PRECISE IN DATA GIVEN TO NMA'S, IN ORDER TO GET FORCE PROPOSALS WHICH CAN BE REALIZED. ON WARNING OF WAR, HILL-NORTON STATED ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR IS IS VERSION, WITH SMALL CHANGE TO REFLECT UPDATED MC-161/75 FORMULATION ON LINK BETWEEN POLITICAL AND MILITARY INDICATIONS. HE STATED THAT US TEXT WAS TOO VAGUE TO USE AS A BASIS FOR MILITARY PLANNING, SINCE JUDGMENTS ON CHARACTERISTICS OF FORCES AND PRIORITIES MUST BE BASED ON SPECIFIC WARNING TIME ASSUMPTIONS. HE SAID THAT "OPEN-ENDED" US VERSION COULD BE TAKEN AS ENCOURAGEMENT TO CUT READY FORCES TO RESERVE STATUS. HE NOTED THAT US VERSION DID NOT CONTAIN REFERENCE TO SURPRISE ATTACK, THEREFORE SUGGESTING THAT SUCH ATTACK IS "IMPOSSIBLE," AND ASKED NOD'S NOT TO "SLAVISHLY FOLLOW MC-161.

14. VREDELING EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT AT MINISTERS' "UNENTHUSIASTIC" RESPONSE TO DUTCH-PROPOSED ADDITIONAL SENTENCE FOR PARA 40 ON RATIONALIZATION/SPECIALIZATION. HE OFFERED TO DROP REFS TO SMALL COUNTRIES AND TO SPECIALIZATION, BUT SAID ALLIES COULD ONLY GIVE REALITY TO FORCE PLAN IMPLIED IN GUIDANCE DOCUMENT IF THEY COULD EFFECT SAVINGS THROUGH RATIONALIZATION. HE PREDICTED "GREAT DIFFICULTIES" IF ALLIES FAILED TO GIVE MORE THAN LIP SERVICE TO RATIONALIZATION. SYG LUNS RESPONDED THAT SEVERAL "HIGH RANKING" POLITICIANS FROM VARIOUS COUNTRIES HAD ASKED HIM WHY NETHERLANDS COULD NOT SPEND AS MUCH ON DEFENSE DURING 1980'S AS THEY DID DURING 1960'S, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THEIR SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN SOCIAL PROGRAM FUNDING. LUNS SAID DUTCH CASE FOR RATIONALIZATION COULD BE STRENGTHENED BY RELATING IT TO EFFICIENCY RATHER THAN TO THE PROBLEM OF MAINTAINING POLITICAL WILL FOR DEFENSE SACRIFICES WHICH IS A SEPARATE MATTER. DE STAERCKE CHARACTERIZED DUTCH SENTENCE ON RATIONNALIZATION/

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SPECIALIZATION AS AN "ESCAPE CLAUSE" AND DECLARED THAT BELGIUM COULD "NOT ACCEPT A TEXT LIKE THIS." LUNS SAID PDC PERMREPS WOULD CONSIDER THE ISSUE WHEN FINALIZING GUIDANCE DOCUMENT; VREDELING REQUESTED THAT PERMREPS PLACE SENTENCE IN FOOTNOTE TO PARA 40 IF THEY CAN'T AGREE TO INTS INCLUSION IN GUIDANCE PROPER.

15. SYG LUNS SUMMARIZED DISCUSSION BY CITING MINISTERS' "GENERAL SATISFACTION" WITH 1975 MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, SAID DPC PERM REPS WOULD FINALIZE DOCUMENT AND INVITED DPC TO ENDORSE UNCLASSIFIED EXTRACT FOR CIRCULATION AS ANNEX TO COMMUNIQUE. MINISTERS AGREED.BRUC



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**To:** STATE  
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MBFR VIENNA  
USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR  
USLOSACLANT  
CINCLANT  
CINCUSAREUR  
CINCUSNAVEUR  
CINCUSAFE

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